



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Health Care Quality and Cost Council
Two Boylston Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02116*

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

617-988-3360 • Fax 617-727-7662 • TTY 617-988-3175
www.mass.gov/healthcare • www.mass.gov/myhealthcareoptions

JUDYANN BIGBY, M.D.
Chair

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

KATHERINE SHEA
Administrative Director

Administrative Bulletin 3.00

**129 CMR 2.00:
Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claims Data Sets**

July 17, 2009

This Administrative Bulletin is to notify carriers and payers required to submit health care claims data under 129 CMR 2.00 of the Health Care Quality and Cost Council's standards to determine compliance with the requirement to report race, ethnicity and language data. This bulletin supersedes Administrative Bulletin 2.00. Regulation 129 CMR 2.00: Uniform Reporting System for Health Care Claim Data Sets governs the submission of health care claims data to the Council or its designee. The regulation describes the type of data to be submitted, as well as the format, data submission schedule, and penalties for noncompliance.

Under the Council's revised regulation effective July 17, 2009, carriers are required to submit data on members' race, ethnicity and language. The regulation also provides that the Council may establish deadlines and compliance thresholds for submission of these data elements by administrative bulletin.

The Council will impose the following standards to determine compliance with the requirement to report member race, ethnicity and language data:

- For claims data submitted between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011, each carrier must report the required race, ethnicity and language data for at least 2% of the unique members represented in the eligibility file during the calendar year;
- For claims data submitted between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012, each carrier must report the required race, ethnicity and language data for at least 3% of the unique members represented in the eligibility file during the calendar year; and
- Effective July 1, 2012, each carrier must report the required race, ethnicity and language data for at least 5% of the unique members represented in the eligibility file during the calendar year.

The Council will continue to work with carriers to develop an effective process for reporting this important data. The Council will develop a process in 2010 for data reporters to request a temporary waiver from the requirement to submit race, ethnicity and language data. In order to obtain such a waiver, the data reporter must demonstrate that it has made a good faith attempt to comply with the data reporting requirements, and develop a reasonable plan to comply with the compliance thresholds within two years.